



From the Early Steps State Office

Spring 2009

Dear Friends,

Hello friends! I want to share with you a personal experience that I am hoping many of you can relate to and hopefully learn a little from. As I do every year, I just finished developing my son's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) for the next school year. An IEP is much like an Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) that you have in Early Steps but it is for the school system. I have found this process to be very successful if I can easily access previous Plans, evaluations, and other records that are important to make good decisions.

If you are experiencing the same cycle of endless paper communication, evaluations, and reports and would like assistance, I encourage you to contact your Family Resource Specialist. They are a wealth of knowledge, as they have "been there, done that" and can help you identify what you might want to keep for future reference, what you can probably get rid of, and recommend successful and organized ways to file your child's information for future reference and easy access.

If you think these reports are taking over your house now, just wait. Before you know it, you'll have a young adult who you'll want to teach how to access their own personal records because they don't want to come to their parent for help. Trust me!!!

Enjoy the next months our beautiful State has to offer and if you're anything like me, do your best to avoid spring fever – it's contagious!

Sincerest Regards,

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